



***Austropyrgus nanoacuminatus* Clark, Miller & Ponder 2003**



Austropyrgus nanoacuminatus (adult size 1.8-2.3 mm)



Distribution of *Austropyrgus nanoacuminatus*.

Diagnostic features

This species belongs to the *Austropyrgus petterdianus* group, whose members are characterised by the following shell features: aperture slightly disjunct, with last whorl and base evenly convex; outer lip without reflection; shell colour yellow-brown and translucent.

A. nanoacuminatus differs from other members of the group in the following combination of characters: shell small, with elongated spire and straight to weakly convex spire outline; ctenidium with short efferent branchial blood vessel separating it from pericardium; prostate gland about 2/3 in pallial roof; pallial vas deferens strongly undulating at prostate gland; penis pigmented distally and medially; oviduct with one bend distal to seminal receptacle.

This species can be found in sympatry with three other species of *Austropyrgus* (*A. lochi*, *A. conicus* and *A. smithii*) throughout its currently recognized range and from which it can be distinguished by its small size, narrow elongate spire and slightly rounded whorls.

Classification

Austropyrgus nanoacuminatus Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003

Class Gastropoda

Infraclass Caenogastropoda

Order Littorinida

Suborder Rissoidina

Superfamily Truncatelloidea

Family Tateidae

Genus *Austropyrgus* Cotton, 1942

Original name: *Austropyrgus nanoacuminatus* Clark, Miller & Ponder, 2003. In Clark, S. A., Miller, A. C. & Ponder, W. F. (2003). Revision of the snail genus *Austropyrgus* (Gastropoda: Hydrobiidae): A morphostatic radiation of freshwater gastropods in southeastern Australia. *Records of the Australian Museum Supplement* 28: 1–109.

Type locality: Thirteen Mile Creek at Heazlewood Road, Mt Cleveland, Tasmania.

Biology and ecology

In streams on water weeds, hard substrata (rocks etc.) and crawling on litter and sediment. Can be locally abundant. Assumed to feed by scraping bacteria and microalgae. Lay solitary capsules containing a single egg. Direct development.

Distribution

This species is known from a number of small streams, most of which are tributaries of the Arthur River, north-western Tasmania, as well as a few locations north and south of that area.

Notes

Although most species of *Austropyrgus* are geographically isolated and have restricted ranges, a few - such as *A. nanoacuminatus* - have wider ranges.

Further reading

Clark, S. A., Miller, A. C. & Ponder, W. F. (2003). Revision of the snail genus *Austropyrgus* (Gastropoda: Hydrobiidae): a morphostatic radiation of freshwater gastropods in southeastern Australia. *Records of the Australian Museum* 28: 1–109.

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https://keys.lucidcentral.org/keys/v3/freshwater_molluscs/

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